

10-05-01

CPA/1744/

Attorney Docket No. DDR 5455 (1417B P 316)

PATENT

#14  
AS  
10/5/01

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Prior U.S. Patent Application of  
Arnold C. Bilstad, et al.For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED  
COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE  
STERILE FIELD

Prior Application No.: 09/294,964

Prior Application Filed: April 20, 1999

Examiner: I. Soubra

Group Art Unit: 1744

Certificate of Express Mailing

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail, Post Office to Addressee, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, BOX CPA, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Sarah J. Goodnight

EL831510915US

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October 4, 2001

Mailing Date

Box CPA  
Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

This is a Request for the filing of a Continued Prosecution Application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) of the above-identified prior nonprovisional U.S. Application No. 09/294,964, filed April 20, 1999.

It is further requested, in accordance with MPEP 201.06(d), that this Continued Prosecution Application utilize the file jacket and contents of the prior Application, including the Specification, Drawings, and Oath or Declaration from the prior Application, to constitute this new Application, and that the Application Number of the above-identified prior Application be assigned for identification purposes. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53.(d)(2)(iv).

It is also requested that the above-identified prior Application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded this Continued Prosecution Application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(2)(v).

With respect to the above-identified prior nonprovisional Application, this Continued

Prosecution Application is being filed before the earliest of the payment of the issue fee on (37 10/09/2001 AWONDAF1 00000086 09294964

01 FC:131  
02 FC:102  
03 FC:103

740.00 OP  
252.00 OP  
522.00 OP

**CPA REQUEST**

Application No.: 09/294,964  
Bilstad, et al.

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C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(1)(ii)(A), abandonment of (37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(1)(ii)(B), or termination of the proceedings on the prior Application (37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(1)(ii)(C).

This Application discloses and claims only subject matter disclosed in the prior Application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(2)(ii).

Filing of this request is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 to every application assigned the Application Number identified in this request. 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.53(d)(7) and 1.78(a)(2).

This Continued Prosecution Application names as inventors the same inventors named in the prior Application on the date this Continued Prosecution Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) is being filed. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(4).

A Preliminary Amendment is hereby submitted with this Request. The Preliminary Amendment should be entered before calculation of the filing fee.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

For:	No. Filed	No. Extra
Basic Fee		
Total Claims	49 - 20 =	29
Indep. Claims	6 - 3 =	3
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim		

Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
	\$370		\$740
x 9=	\$0	29 x 18 =	\$522
x 42=	\$0	3 x 84 =	\$252
x140 =	\$0	x 280 =	\$-0-
Total	\$0	Total	\$1,514

A check in the amount of \$1,514 is attached for the filing fee.

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**CPA REQUEST**

Application No.: 09/294,964  
Bilstad, et al.

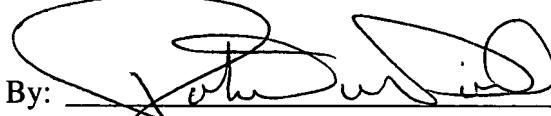
Page 3

In addition, a Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time is being submitted herewith, extending the time for response to October 10, 2001. A check in the amount of \$920.00 is also submitted herewith.

You are hereby authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 23-0280 for any payment deficiencies or overpayments with regard to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 4, 2001

By:   
Robert W. Diehl, Reg. No. 35,118  
Wallenstein & Wagner, Ltd.  
311 South Wacker Drive, 53<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60606-6622  
(312) 554-3300

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